

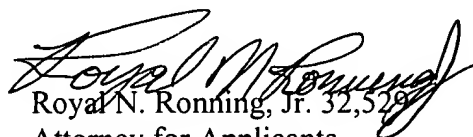
Remarks

Claims 1-9 are pending in the instant application. Applicants have amended claims 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 to more fully conform with U.S. practice and to delete multiple dependencies. A version of the claims marked up to show the amendments, as well as a clean version of the claims encompassing the amendments, is attached hereto.

Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are fairly based on the specification, and respectfully request their entry.

Applicants believe that the claims, as amended, are in allowable form, and earnestly solicit the allowance of claims 1-9.

Respectfully submitted,


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Claims (marked-up version showing amendment(s))

[CLAIMS]

What is claimed is:

5. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 4]claim 1 wherein the biological molecule is a peptide or a protein.
6. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 5]claim 1 wherein the hyperpolarised ^{129}Xe is enriched at a level of 40% or more.
7. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 6]claim 1 wherein the degree of hyperpolarisation is 8% or more.
8. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 7]claim 1 which is performed in a solution wherein the solvent has a viscosity in the range of 700 to 1500 mPs.
9. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 8]claim 1 wherein the pressure of the xenon gas is at least 5 bar.